

(e) This subpart does not affect or supersede any requirement or prohibition pertaining to the discharge of ballast water into the waters of the United States under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 to 1376).

(f) This subpart does not affect or supersede any requirement or prohibition pertaining to the discharge of ballast water into the waters of the United States under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.).

(g) Vessels with installed BWMS for testing and evaluation by an Independent Laboratory in accordance with the requirements of 46 CFR 162.060–10 and 46 CFR 162.060–28 will be deemed to be in compliance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

§ 151.2026 Alternate management systems.

(a) A manufacturer whose ballast water management system (BWMS) has been approved by a foreign administration pursuant to the standards set forth in the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004, may request in writing, for the Coast Guard to make a determination that their BWMS is an alternate management system (AMS). Requests for determinations under this section must include:

- (1) The type-approval certificate for the BWMS.
- (2) Name, point of contact, address, and phone number of the authority overseeing the program;
- (3) Final test results and findings, including the full analytical procedures and methods, results, interpretations of the results, and full description and documentation of the Quality Assurance procedures (*i.e.*, sample chain of custody forms, calibration records, etc.);
- (4) A description of any modifications made to the system after completion of the testing for which a determination is requested; and
- (5) A type approval application as described under 46 CFR 162.060–12.
 - (i) Once ballast water management systems are type approved by the Coast Guard and available for a given class, type of vessels, or specific vessel, those

vessels will no longer be able to install AMS in lieu of type approved systems.

(ii) [Reserved]

(b) Requests for determinations must be submitted in writing to the Commanding Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Center, 2100 2nd St. SW., Stop 7102, Washington, DC 20593–7102.

(c) If using an AMS that was installed on the vessel prior to the date that the vessel is required to comply with the ballast water discharge standard in accordance with § 151.2035(b), the master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of the vessel subject to this subpart may employ such AMS for no longer than 5 years from the date they would otherwise be required to comply with the ballast water discharge standard in accordance with the implementation schedule in § 151.2035(b) of this subpart. To ensure the safe and effective management and operation of the AMS equipment, the master, owner, operator, agent or person in charge of the vessel must ensure the AMS is maintained and operated in conformity with the system specifications.

(d) An AMS determination issued under this section may be suspended, withdrawn, or terminated in accordance with the procedures contained in 46 CFR 162.060–18.

§ 151.2030 Ballast water discharge standard (BWDS).

(a) Vessels employing a Coast Guard-approved ballast water management system (BWMS) must meet the following BWDS by the date listed in § 151.2035(b) of this subpart:

- (1) For organisms greater than or equal to 50 micrometers in minimum dimension: Discharge must include fewer than 10 organisms per cubic meter of ballast water.
- (2) For organisms less than 50 micrometers and greater than or equal to 10 micrometers: Discharge must include fewer than 10 organisms per milliliter (mL) of ballast water.
- (3) Indicator microorganisms must not exceed:
 - (i) For toxicogenic *Vibrio cholerae* (serotypes O1 and O139): A concentration of less than 1 colony forming unit (cfu) per 100 mL.

(ii) For *Escherichia coli*: a concentration of fewer than 250 cfu per 100 mL.

(iii) For intestinal enterococci: A concentration of fewer than 100 cfu per 100 mL.

(b) [Reserved]

(c) The Coast Guard will conduct a practicability review as follows:

(1) No later than January 1, 2016, the Coast Guard will publish the results of a practicability review to determine—

(i) Whether technology to comply with a performance standard more stringent than that required by paragraph (a) of this section can be practicably implemented, in whole or in part, and, if so, the Coast Guard will schedule a rulemaking to implement the more stringent standard; and

(ii) Whether testing protocols that can assure accurate measurement of compliance with a performance standard more stringent than that required by paragraph (a) of this section can be practicably implemented.

(2) If the Coast Guard determines on the basis of a practicability review conducted under paragraph (c)(1) of this section that technology to achieve a significant improvement in ballast water treatment efficacy could be practicably implemented, the Coast Guard will report this finding and will, no later than January 1, 2017, initiate a rulemaking that would establish performance standards and other requirements or conditions to ensure to the maximum extent practicable that aquatic nuisance species are not discharged into waters of the United States from vessels. If the Coast Guard subsequently finds that it is not able to meet this schedule, the Coast Guard will publish a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER so informing the public, along with an explanation of the reason for the delay, and a revised schedule for rule making that shall be as expeditious as practicable.

(3) When conducting the practicability review as described in paragraph (c)(1) of this section, the Coast Guard will consider—

(i) The capability of any identified technology to achieve a more stringent BWDS, in whole or in part;

(ii) The effectiveness of any identified technology in the shipboard environment;

(iii) The compatibility of any identified technology with vessel design and operation;

(iv) The safety of any identified technology;

(v) Whether the use of any identified technology may have an adverse impact on the environment;

(vi) The cost of any identified technology;

(vii) The economic impact of any identified technology, including the impact on shipping, small businesses, and other uses of the aquatic environment;

(viii) The availability, accuracy, precision, and cost of methods and technologies for measuring the concentrations of organisms, treatment chemicals, or other pertinent parameters in treated ballast water as would be required under any alternative discharge standards;

(ix) Any requirements for the management of ballast water included in the most current version of the Environmental Protection Agency's Vessel General Permit and any documentation available from the EPA regarding the basis for these requirements; and

(x) Any other factor that the Coast Guard considers appropriate that is related to the determination of whether identified technology is performable, practicable, and/or may possibly prevent the introduction and spread of non-indigenous aquatic invasive species.

§ 151.2035 Implementation schedule for approved ballast water management methods.

(a) To discharge ballast water into waters of the United States, the master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of a vessel subject to § 151.2025 of this subpart must either ensure that the ballast water meets the ballast water discharge standard as defined in § 151.2030(a), use an AMS as described in § 151.2025(a)(3) or ballast with water from a U.S. public water system, as described in § 151.2025(a)(2), according to the schedule in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Implementation Schedule for the Ballast Water Management Discharge Standard for vessels using a Coast Guard approved BWMS to manage ballast water*